

Differentiability of real-valued functions

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(provided it exists and it is finite) is called the first derivative of f at the point x_0 and we say also that f is differentiable at x_0

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Let f be a real function defined on an open interval $]a, b[$ and let $x_0 \in]a, b[$. We define the **left- hand side derivative** of f denoted by $f'_-(x_0)$ as follows

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$$f'_-(x_0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0}$$

(provided it exists and it is **finite**)

Definition

Let f be a real function defined on an open interval $]a, b[$ and let $x_0 \in]a, b[$. f is differentiable at x_0 if the following limit

$$f'(x_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}$$

exists and it is **finite**

① The number h is called

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Example

Consider the function

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

and **study** the differentiability of f in its domain of definition

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Let $x_0 \in [0, +\infty[$.

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Example

Consider the function

$$f(x) = x^2$$

and study the differentiability of f in its domain.

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$$f(x) = \cos x$$

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Differentiability and Continuity

Corollary

If f is *differentiable* at x_0 , then

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Example

If we take, the function $x \mapsto |x|$ which is continuous at 0 and not differentiable at this point.

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Let f and g be two functions defined on I and *differentiable* at a point $x_0 \in I$. Then

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$$\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)'(x_0) = \frac{f'(x_0)g(x_0) - f(x_0)g'(x_0)}{g^2(x_0)}$$

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$$(g \circ f)'(x_0) = f'(x_0) g'(f(x_0))$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{(g \circ f)(x) - (g \circ f)(x_0)}{x - x_0}$$

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 & \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{(g \circ f)(x) - (g \circ f)(x_0)}{x - x_0} \\
 = & \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(x_0))}{x - x_0}
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Theorem

Let $f : I \rightarrow J$ be a function that is **continuous**, **strictly monotonic**, and **differentiable** at the point $x_0 \in I$ such that $f(I) = J$ and $f'(x_0) \neq 0$. In that case, we have

$$(f^{-1})'(y_0) = \frac{1}{f'(x_0)} = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(y_0))}.$$

Proof.

Set $g = f^{-1}$

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$$\lim_{y \rightarrow y_0} \frac{g(y) - g(y_0)}{y - y_0}$$

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Example

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$y = 2x + 1$; it follows that $x = \frac{y-1}{2}$ and

$$f^{-1}(y) = \frac{y-1}{2} \Rightarrow (f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{2}$$

since $f'(x) = 2$

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$$(f^{-1})'(y)$$

Example

$f(x) = \sqrt{x} + 2, x > 0$, we have $f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$ and

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then

$$\begin{aligned} & (f^{-1})'(y) \\ &= \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(y))} \end{aligned}$$

Example

$f(x) = \sqrt{x} + 2, x > 0$, we have $f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$ and

$$f^{-1}(y) = (y - 2)^2$$

then

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Example

$f(x) = \ln x$, $x > 0$, we have $f'(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ and

$$(f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(y))} = \frac{1}{f'(x)} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} = x = e^y$$

Example

$f(x) = e^x, x > 0$, we have $f'(x) = e^x$ and

$$(f^{-1})'(x) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(y))} = \frac{1}{f'(x)} = \frac{1}{e^x} = \frac{1}{x}$$

Example

$f(x) = x + \ln x, x > 0$, we have $f'(x) = \frac{x+1}{x}$ and

$$(f^{-1})'(x) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(y))} = \frac{1}{f'(x)} = \frac{1}{\frac{x+1}{x}} = \frac{x}{x+1} = \frac{f^{-1}(y)}{f^{-1}(y)+1}$$

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Example

Soit $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ la fonction définie par

$$f(x) = x + e^x.$$

1 f is **differentiable** since it is

- ① f is **differentiable** since it is the sum of two differentiable functions

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- ③ f is **bijjective** and $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) \rightarrow +\infty, \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$.

Example

We know that $f'(x)$

Example

We know that $f'(x) = 1 + e^x$. then

$$(f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(x)} = \frac{1}{1 + e^x} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{f^{-1}(y)}}$$

but $f^{-1}(f(x)) = x$

Definition

(\mathcal{C}^n Functions) We say that a function $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is of class \mathcal{C}^n if and only if

- 1 f is n times differentiable on I .
- 2 The function $f^{(n)}$ is continuous on I .